

Dear Mr. Watson,

If this specimen comes in such a shape as to be recognizable will you please tell me what it is, you no doubt know it well. It grows abundantly on the plains of Nebraska, and is called "tumble weed" by the people from the fact that the autumn winds tear it up by the roots and send it rolling in every direction, I take the scaly protuberances along the branches to be the flowers, I think I can detect in each of them a style or pistil but I have no glass strong enough to find any stamens nor any vestige of a calyx. If these are flowers they are monopetalous, salver shaped,

with slightly fringed border. When fresh they were purplish red and had a wizled surface like that of the iceplants. But I cannot even guess or surmise where the plant belongs botanically. Please tell me if you know or can make it out.

I hope you are well and happy, and send regards to your household.

Yours sincerely
H. Gatty,

Frostbank
Sept 22^d 87